These are:—

(i) Ensuring that mining operations are carried out in full conformity with rules and regulations and strictly as per conditions imposed by Director General of Mines Safety,

(ii) No extraction to be done below builltin areas without stowing,

(iii) Restricted working/extraction in case of workings under shallow cover,

(iv) Prohibition of construction activities over areas declared unsafe for habitation.

A Pilot project to stabilise the unstable underground workings by stowing with sand through surface bore-holes has been completed in June, 1988 at Ramjibanpur. The results are under evaluation. On successful techno-economic evaluation of the results, this technique will be extended to other areas.

Inquiry Committees to Look into the Corruption Charges Levelled against Chief Executives of the Public Sector Units

1439. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of inquiry committees set up to inquire into the charges of corruption against the Chief Executives of Public Sector Units under his Ministry during the last three years;

(b) how many of the inquiry reports were against the Chief Executives; and

(c) what are the details of the action taken against such Chief Executives on the basis of the inquiry reports?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Delay in the Publication of Telephone Directories

1440. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for delay in the publication of the new telephone directories, circlewise;

(b) the main reasons for delay in the publication of new telephone directories in U.P. circle; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to avoid such delays in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Closure of Post Offices in U.P.

1441. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices closed down during the last three years in U.P.;

(b) what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the number of persons who have been rendered jobless as a result thereof; and

(d) whether any alternative jobs have been provided to these persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The number of post offices

discontinued in Uttar Pradesh during the last 3 years is follows:—

1985-86	——	23
1986-87	——	19
1987-88	——	5

(b) These post offices were discontinued on account of one or more of the following reasons:

(i) Loss in excess of the permissible limit;

(ii) Insufficient workload.

(iii) Location within a short distance of another post office.

(c) and (d) No person has been rendered jobless as alternative appointments have been found in all cases.

Supply of LPG for curing Tobacco

1442. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to supply Liquified Petroleum Gas through a pipeline to the Tobacco growers in Andhra Pradesh for curing their produce; and

(b) whether Government feel that it will be more economical and will save fire wood and coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) No, Sir;

(b) No study in this regard has conducted.

Delivery of Telegrams in A. P.

1443. DR. YELAMANCHLI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at least 1/5th of the telegrams in Andhra Pradesh are delivered by post; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No, Sir. A small proportion of about 1/500th of the telegrams handled, was sent by post in Andhra Pradesh during the year 1987-88. (32,597 telegrams posted out of total 1,74,42,348 handled).

(b) Telegrams are despatched by post under unavoidable circumstances due to the following reasons beyond our control;

(1) Power cuts of long duration.

(2) Interruptions on long open wire lines in hilly terrains and jungle areas due to floods/rains; and

(3) The effect of General Bandhs and strikes on staff attendance.

Power Generating Capacity in the Country

1444. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is present generating capacity of power plants in the country;